

**INVITED SESSION SUMMARY****Title of Session:**

Challenges and Opportunities of Supply Chain Management in the Circular Economy

**Name, Title and Affiliation of Chair:**

Dr Maria Holgado, University of Sussex, UK

Dr Anna Aminoff, Hanken School of Economics, Finland

**Details of Session (including aim and scope):**

The Circular Economy (CE) is gaining increased attention in industry, governments and academia alike. Gaps remain in its implementation and, although promising sustainable economic growth while increasing resource efficiency and society welfare, successful cases are still few and anecdotal. Research on CE needs to increase attention on practical implementation aspects, e.g. integration of forward and reverse logistics, structural changes in supply chains, etc. Thus, tackling the systemic changes required to transition to CE at a global scale.

The transformation towards a CE needs to be understood from different angles. An often-neglected aspect of the enabling system in CE research are supply chains and supply chain management. Indeed, closing resources loop will imply changes in current network structures and supply chain design, recovery processes and logistics as well as management practices for supply chains.

This special session aims to increase the visibility of supply chain dimensions in CE research and to address the latest research efforts in different supply chains fields to integrate CE principles.

The session will cover (but not be limited to) the following topics:

- Challenges and barriers in current supply chains hindering CE implementation
- Tools and methods for integrating CE principles in current supply chains
- Supply chain modelling and simulation for CE initiatives
- Emerging technologies in supply chains to support the transition to the CE
- CE strategies at different product life cycle stages and their impacts in supply chains
- Supply chain innovations to keep products and materials in use
- Supply chain innovations to extend product lifecycle time
- Novel ways to design and operate supply chains to enable the CE
- Design approaches and innovative processes to enable value recovery along supply chains
- Supply chain implications of different CE business models

Contributions of any types are welcome including empirical research, literature reviews, conceptual, case studies and surveys.

Authors' guidelines and deadline for submissions can be found in the conference website: <http://sdm-19.kesinternational.org/>

**Main Contributing Researchers / Research Centres (tentative, if known at this stage):****Website URL of Call for Papers (if any):**

N/A

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